Minutes

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH

ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

1952

HELD WITH

LAWYER'S SPRINGS CHURCH

ANSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 19, 20, 21, 1952

OFFICERS

ELDER V. V. WILLARD, Moderator

BROTHER TOMMY HORNE, Clerk

PRESTON L. HELMS, Assistant Clerk

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PROCEEDINGS OF BUSINESS SESSION

The Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association convened in annual session with Lawyer's Springs Church, Anson County, North Carolina, Friday, September 19, 1952 and continued Saturday and Sunday following.

Brethren, sisters and friends assembled in the house at 10:30. After engaging in songs of praise, Elder J. A. Monsees introduced services by prayer followed with introductory discourse by Elder V. V. Willard of High Point, pastor of Lawyer's Springs Church, from Romans 5:19.

Following the introductory sermon about one hour was taken for refreshments, after which the Association met in the house and engaged in songs of praise followed in prayed by Elder A. L. Land.

Lawyer's Springs Church, with Ministers, Messengers and Brethren composing the Association, proceeded to business as follows:

Elder V. V. Willard, pastor of Lawyer's Springs Church served as Moderator, and Brother Tommy Horne, Clerk of Lawyer's Springs Church served as Clerk and called Preston L. Helms as Assistant Clerk.

1. Extended a cordial invitation to all orderly Baptists who are in good standaing with their home churches to seats with us.

2. Called for letters from the sister churches composing this Association, which were handed in, read and their status noted:

Lawyer's Springs was represented by full membership.

High Point: Brethren C. C. Willard, J. D. Nelson, L. E. Morefield and R. L. Strickland, Sr.

Meadow Creek: Brethren R. M. Hatley, N. D. Hathcock, J. L. Deese and Adam Almond.

Watson: Brethren F. O. Helms, H. N. Curlee, W. B. Simpson and D. W. Clontz.

Pleasant Hill: Brethren J. W. Richardson, L. W. Auman, C. E. Russell and E. G. Auman.

High Hill: Brethren Earl Presley, Dock Helms, Howard Edwards and M. C. Mills.

Liberty Hill: Brethren Buren Medlin, Clifford Honeycutt, Charlie Hatley and Craven Furr.

Pleasant Grove: Brethren Glenn Mullis, Judge Polk, Melvin Mills, and J. M. Williams.

Union Grove: Brethren Dallas Ford, Brice Baucom, William Walden and J. J. Clontz.

Mt. Creek: Brethren T. F. Medlin, J. C. Glover, C. I. Vanhoy, and C. M. Taylor.

Mills Chapel: Brethren F. L. Nance, F. H. Simpson, T. B. Curlee, and H. L. Little.

Union: Brethren V. H. Solomon, Wade Glenn, T. B. Polk and Guy Johnson.

Bethel: Brethren R. O. Lewis, Thomas Bell, Carlos Benton, and James Lee.

Corinth: Brethren Ed Peterson, Walter Peterson and Elder A. N. Green.

Park View: Brethren F. C. Willard, H. L. Willard and W. H. Minter.

3. Called for petitionary letters. Park View church presented a letter asking membership in this Association and was unanimously received.

4. The Moderator, Elder V. V. Willard, was authorized to appoint a committee on preaching and finance:

Committee on Preaching: Elders C. M. Mills, D. B. Willard, and Brethren Grant Sikes, Cletus Marsh and C. W. Griffin.

Committee on Finance: Brethren Tommy Horne, Lloyd Outen, C. C. Willard, A. E. Broome and James Horne.

5. Called on Presbyteries to report:

By request of Liberty Hill Church, Stanly County, N. C., a Presbytery was organized by the following Ministers and Deacons, Elders C. M. Mills, V. V. Willard and Homer Poplin and Deacons W. L. Solomon, T. B. Polk, W. R. Coley, G. P. Burris, Sanford Medlin, F. L. Baucom, R. M. Hatley, A. E. Broom, C. W. Griffin, Cletus Marsh, J. M. Taylor, E. F. Lambert, J. W. Harwood, F. L. Honeycutt, N. D. Hathcock and Lloyd Outen and ordained Brother Craven Furr to the office of a deacon.

According to previous arrangement Elders C. M. Mills, V. V. Willard, J. W. Bullard, W. E. Snyder, Fred Clayton, D. B. Willard and J. S. Stephenson and Deacons C. C. Willard, E. M. Morefield and others met in the edge of Winston-Salem at a place where the Primitive Baptists have been having services for quite a period of time and organized a Presbytery and constituted a church, consisting of members lettered from High Point and also ordained the following brethren: F. C. Willard, H. L. Willard and W. H. Minter to office of deacons.

6. Invited visitors from corresponding associations to seats with us.

Silver Creek: Elders L. L. Huffman, Henry C. McMillon, Brethren Sam Hartley and C. D. McGee.

Little River of N. C.: Elders J. S. Collins, J. T. Lewis, J. S. Stephenson and Brethren L. B. Clayton, Milton Byrd, Sebe Clifton, Zennie Stephenson, Lonnie Johnson and Freddie Giles.

Little River of Georgia: Not represented.

South Arkansas: Not represented.

Mt. Zion: Elders E. B. Watts, J. L. Musick and Brethren Otis Davis and Ernest Blackwoood and wife.

Sequachie Valley and Collins River: Elder Avery Land and wife and daughter and Brother D. M. Roulston.

Tennessee and Nolechucky: Elder Shade Tipton.

Powells Valley: Elders A. A. Miracle, Charlie Miracle, Grover Pittman and Levi S. Saylor and Brethren V. L. Matthews, Authur Miracle, Floyd Raley and wife, W. A. Banson, V. V. Weaver, Joe Bowling, wife and daughter.

7. Invited visiting Brethren and Sisters from sister associations with whom we do not carry formal correspondence to seats with us:

Ray's Fork Church, Scott County, Ky.: Elder C. L. Ratcliff and wife, and Brother Kenneth Ratcliff and wife.

Mt. Zion Church, Blanchester, Ohio: Sister Polly Williams.

Mud Creek Association of Alabama: Elder Gene Thomas.

Original Towaliga Association of Georgia: Elder E. D. Spier.

Friendship Association of Georgia: Elder J. A. Monsees.

Louisiana Association: Brother R. L. Sawyer.

Elder P. H. Byrd, Upper Canoocnee of Georgia.

8. Appointed messengers to visit corresponding associations as follows:

Silver Creek: Elder V. V. Willard, Brethren C. W. Griffin, C. J. Mullis and Roy Hardy.

Little River of N. C.: Elders C. M. Mills, V. V. Willard and Brethren W. B. Simpson and T. L. Medlin.

Little River, Georgia: Elder C. M. Mills and Brethren C. J. Mullis and T. B. Curleee.

South Ark: Minutes and represent if possible.

Mt. Zion: Elders V. V. Willard, D. B. Willard and Brethren Roy Branch and Ellis Honeycutt.

Tennessee and Nolechucky: Brother Fred Lee Honeycutt and Elders C. M. Mills and D. B. Willard.

Sequachie Valley and Collins River: Elders V. V. Willard, E. H. Simpson and Brother M. C. Mills.

Powells Valley: Elders V. V. Willard and E. H. Simpson.

9. By motion unanimously agreed to continue correspondence with all churches and associations which we are in corerspondence with.

10. On motion Elder C. M. Mills was appointed to write corresponding letter to be printed in the Minutes of this Association.

11. It was unanimously agreed to adjourn until Saturday, September 20th, 9:15 A. M. Benediction by Elder E. B. Watts.

SATURDAY PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to adjournment the Association met in the house Saturday, 20th at 9:15 A. M. After singing songs of praise and prayer by Elder E. H. Simpson of Concord, N. C., continued with business as follows:

12. Called on finance committee to report. Report as follows:

Donations by Churches	$700.00
Donations by Congregation	76.00
Total Donations	$776.00

13. Unanimously agreed to distribute minutes to corresponding associations as usual.

14. Called for corresponding letter which was read and adopted.

15. On motion it was unanimously agreed that we hold the 1953 session of the Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association with High Point Church, Guilford County, North Carolina, beginning Friday before the fifth Sunday in August and continuing through Saturday and Sunday following, and that the pastor of High Point Church preach the introductory sermon.

16. On motion unanimously agreed that we have 1000 copies of this minute printed and distributed to churches and associations as usual and that Preston L. Helms superintend the printing and distribution of same and that he be allowed $80.00 for printing, mailing and services.

17. By motion unanimously agreed to distribute all funds above that allowed for printing, mailing and clerks services, to ministers as the finance committee may deem proper.

18. By unanimous agreement the Association returns thanks to God for His mercy and to the brethren, sisters and friends of Lawyer's Springs Church and vacinity for their kind hospitality and entertainment afforded during this session of the Association.

19. Agreed to adjourn to time and place above mentioned. Benediction by Elder E. H. Simpson.

ELDER V. V. WILLARD, Moderator,
Rt. 2, High Point, N. C.

BROTHER TOMMY HORNE, Clerk,
Peachland, N. C.

PRESTON L. HELMS, Asst. Clerk,
Rt. 3, Marshville, N. C.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Donations by Churches	$700.00
Donations by Congregation	76.00
Total Donations	776.00

Expenditures

Printing Minutes	$ 50.00
Mailing and clerks service	30.00
Distributed to ministers	696.00
Total	776.00

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY A. M.

Elder V. V. Willard. Text: Romans 5:19.

FRIDAY P. M.

Elder L. L. Huffman. Failed to get text.
Elder Thomas Jones. Failed to get text.
Elder A. L. Land. Failed to get text.

FRIDAY NIGHT

(Lawyer's Springs)

Elder J. T. Music. No special text.
Elder J. A. Monsees. Text: Eph. 2:10.

(Pleasant Grove)

Elder A. A. Miracle. Text: John 7:14-15.
Elder E. D. Spier. Text: 2nd Peter 1:3.

SATURDAY A. M.

Elder E. B. Watts. Text: 2nd Cor. 10:2-4.
Elder J. A. Monsees. Text. Rev. 22:16-17.
Elder E. D. Spier. Text: 2nd Cor. 5:12-21.

SATURDAY P. M.

Elder J. E. Kitchens. Text: Romans 6:23.
Elder Henry C. McMillon. Text: John 17:13.
Elder J. S. Stephenson. Text: John 10:27-28.

SATURDAY NIGHT

(Lawyer's Springs)

Elder Charley Miracle. Text: Phil. 20:12-13.
Elder Levi S. Saylor. Text: 1st John 5:1.

(Pleasant Grove)

Elder J. S. Collins. Text: John 5:1.
Elder C. L. Ratcliff. Text: Psalms 27:4

(Union Grove)

Elder Grover Pittman. Text: Eph. 1:3.
Elder Gene Thomas. Text: Psalms 85:10-11.

(Liberty Hill)

Elder Shade Tipton. Text: Romans 3:20.

SUNDAY A. M.

Elder Shade Tipton. Text: Deut. 32:9-13.
Elder P. H. Byrd. Text: 1st Kings 21:20.
Elder Gene Thomas. Text: Eccles. 12: 10-11.

SUNDAY, P. M.

Elder J. T. Lewis. Text: 1 Cor. 15: 1-2.
Elder C. L. Ratcliff. Text: 2nd Cor. 5: 20-21.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder C. M. Mills, 3130 Central Ave., Charlotte, N. C.
Elder V. V. Willard, R2 High Point, N. C.
Elder D. B. Willard, Rt. 6, Winston-Salem, N. C.
Elder E. H. Simpson, Rt. 4, Concord, N. C.
Elder Homer Poplin, R2, Box 56, Albemarle, N. C.
Elder A. N. Green, Rt. 3, Kings Mountain, N. C.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder L. L. Huffman, Rt. 4, Asheville, N. C.
Elder J. T. Lewis, Coats, N. C.
Elder J. S. Stephenson, Benson, N. C.
Elder J. S. Collins, R1, Angier, N. C.
Elder Henry C. McMillon, Lenoir, N. C.
Elder C. L. Ratcliff, 705 Philadelphia St., Covington, Ky.
Elder E. D. Spiers, Conley, Ga.
Elder A. A. Miracle, 1306 Beaumont Ave., Knoxville, Tenn.
Elder Charlie Miracle, Insull, Ky.
Elder Levi S. Saylor, 20421 Hugh St., Farmington, Mich.
Elder Grover Pittman, Cubbage, Ky.
Elder Shade Tipton, Rt. Townsend, Tenn.
Elder Elmer Kitchens, Jasper, Ala.
Elder E. B. Watts, Rt. 9, Cullman, Ga.
Elder J. B. Musick, Alabama.
Elder Thomas E. Jones, Slocumb St., Carmi, Ill.
Elder Gene Thomas, Scottsboro, Ala.
Elder A. L. Land, Dunlap, Tenn.
Elder P. H. Byrd, Twin City, Ga.
Elder J. A. Monsees, Atlanta, Ga.

CORRESPONDING LETTER

To the ministers and messengers composing the Original Bear Creek Association, together with all of our corresponding and visiting brethren. Greetings:

We appreciate your presence and want you to know you are welcome. We are satisfied with the same principles this Association was established upon one hundred twenty years ago. We surely believe that alien sinners are saved by the Sovereign Grace of God, independent of any human agency. God the Father elected the objects of His love to grace and glory. God the Son redeemed them by His blood. God the Holy Spirit regenerates, borns them again in due time, making the children of men the children of God. The Holy Ghost is calling servants to feed, comfort, instruct, and care for the flock of God. God's servants have been blessed to preach the gospel with power and demonstration of the spirit. We invite each of you to come again any time you can and will. The Lord has blessed us with peace and prosperity during the past year, for which we are thankful to our heavenly Father.

We desire to continue our correspondence with each of you. May love and fellowship abound among us. May we all humbly follow our Master and Lord.

We do not desire new things not taught in the sacred Scriptures. We surely believe that the New Testament Church of Jesus Christ is under the principles set forth by our Lord and Master in the New Covenant, or Testament and all the Church should practice is contained therein.

May God's abounding grace be with each and all, till we meet again.

Your Little, Unworthy Servant,
ELDER C. M. MILLS.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one living and true God; the Father, the Word and The Holy Ghost.

Article 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, grace and glory, and in relative union with the Divine Word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Article 3. We believe that the scirpture of the Old and New Testament contain the only written revealed word of God and the perfect rule of faith and practice for God's Church in her militant state while here on earth.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of election; that God chose His Church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Article 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, the federal head.

Article 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Article 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and His righteousness only.

Article 9. We believe that God's elect or Church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Article 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never really fall away.

Article 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment, and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the Supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men. We believe in feet washing as taught by our Saviour in St. John 13:4-17.

Article 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Article 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and unjust, and a general judgment.

Article 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES GOVERNING THE ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1st. We understand that at whatever church this Association is being held, that it is being held solely under the authority of that church, just as any other regular or monthly conference.

2nd. That the officers and suffrages of that chucrh shall be the officers and voice of the Association, except as that church may deem prudent to request any member of another church to assist in the business transactions of the Association.

3rd. This Association shall have no authority to pass upon any question of a disciplinary nature except it has first been passed upon by the local churches composing this Association; then the work of the churches shall be recognized by the Association.

4th. Any member who endeavors to bring in or inject a disciplinary question that involves fellowship, before it has been passed upon by the local churches, shall be considered out of order by the church with whom the Association is being held, and by the messengers present from the sister churches.

5th. The Association shall be conducted for no purpose other than song, prayer, and preaching services, and no business shall be transacted by the Association except that which is necessary or sets forth the status of each church composing this body in the form of a minute.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES	Rec'd by Exp. & Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Relation	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Sunday of Meeting	Contributions
High Point	Elder V. V. Willard	H. M. Willard, Winston-Salem, N. C.	2	0	0	0	12	0	1	107	4	$ 60.00
Meadow Creek	Elder C. M. Mills	J. L. Deese,	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	55	1	$ 80.00
Watson	Elder C. M. Mills	Preston L. Helms, Rt. 3, Marshville, N. C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	4	$ 26.50
Pleasant Hill	Elder V. V. Willard	G. L. Auman, Allreads, N. C.								43	1	$ 43.00
High Hill	Elder V. V. Willard	Martin C. Mills, Rt. 2, Monroe, N. C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	59	1	$ 40.00
Liberty Hill	Elder C. M. Mills	Ellis Honeycutt, Oakboro, N. C.	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	91	1	$ 50.00
Pleasant Grove	Elder C. M. Mills	A. E. Broom, Rt. 2, Marshville, N. C.	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	62	2	$ 65.00
Union Grove	Elder C. M. Mills	Lloyd Outen, 1726 Chestnut St., Charlotte, N. C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	134	2	$122.50
Mt. Creek	Elder C. M. Mills	G. C. Medlin, 1827 Charlotte Road, Albemarle, N. C.	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	35	3	$ 45.00
Lawyer's Springs	Elder V. V. Willard	Tommy Horne, Peachland, N. C.	3	0	0	0	2	0	1	80	1	$ 50.00
Mills Chapel	Elder C. M. Mills											
	Elder D. B. Willard	F. L. Nance, 201 D Ave., Salisbury, N. C.	9	1	0	0	1	0	0	46	3	$ 40.00
Union	Elder E. H. Simpson	V. H. Solomon, Rt. 2, Gastonia, N. C.	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	30	1	$ 38.00
Bethel	Elder C. M. Mills											
	Elder D. B. Willard	W. J. McLamb, Shalotte, N. C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	53	4	$ 25.00
Corinth	Elder E. H. Simpson	Walter Peterson, Kings Mountain, N. C.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	3	$ 5.00
Park View	Elder D. B. Willard	W. H. Minter, Winston-Salem, N. C.					Constituted			12	1	$ 10.00
		Donations by Congregation										$ 76.00
		Totals	39	3	0	1	17	1	7	864		$776.00

(Addresses of ministers will be found on page five)